

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Effect of Indo-Myanmar Trade Treaty on SSI

3401. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Indo-Myanmar Trade Treaty has greatly affected the Small Scale, Agro and Rural Industries in the border States like Manipur; and

(b) if so, what steps are contemplated to meet the challenge created to these village industries by the products of other counties coming through Myanmar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government has not received any complaint either from the Government of Manipur or from the local traders relating to the small scale, agro and rural industries being affected as a result of the Indo-Myanmar Border Trade Treaty.

Quality of Products Produced by SSI

3402. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to improve the quality of products produced by Small Scale, agro and Rural Industries to that of international standard and meet the challenge of WTO;

(b) whether such industries will be given subsidies to market their products in the international market; and

(c) whether such industries will be given training for cost effective methods and procurement of raw materials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Government has put in place several measures

to help the Small Scale, Agro and Rural Industries become globally competitive. These include special focus on areas such as technology upgradation, infrastructure assistance through cluster approach, timely availability of credit, adoption of modern management practices, reimbursement upto Rs. 75,000/- for obtaining ISO-9000 certification, use of electronic infrastructure and other IT applications, marketing and timely information dissemination, including sensitization to the emerging challenges of trade liberalization.

(b) Financial assistance is provided to Small Scale, Agro and Rural Industries for participation and display of products at selected international trade fairs/exhibitions.

(c) Yes, Sir. Training programmes on packaging for export are organised to acquaint the Small Scale Sector exporters of the latest packaging standards, techniques etc. The National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) extends assistance to Small Scale Sector for procurement of raw materials.

Italian Model to Raise Credit

3403. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister had recently discussed, during visit to Italy, the application of Italian model of credit so that the entrepreneur gets loan without collateral evidence and with comparative ease;

(b) if so, what are the result and by when the new model of credit would apply to our small scale and rural industries;

(c) whether the financial crunches being faced by Forazabad Glass Industries in Uttar Pradesh which are on the verge of closure, were also discussed; and

(d) if so, the details of interaction and immediate steps being taken to save them from closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has launched a Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Small Scale Industries (CGFSI). The Scheme is being implemented by a Trust jointly constituted by the Government of India and Small Industries Development